

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7268

To amend the Clean Air Act to clarify that certain conversions of engines and motor vehicles from conventional fuels to clean alternative fuels will not require additional certifications, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 2008

Mr. ROSKAM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Clean Air Act to clarify that certain conversions of engines and motor vehicles from conventional fuels to clean alternative fuels will not require additional certifications, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CONVERSIONS TO CLEAN ALTERNATIVE FUEL.**

4 Section 203 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7522)
5 is amended by adding the following new subsection at the
6 end thereof:

7 “(c) CERTIFICATION OF CERTAIN CONVERSIONS.—In
8 the case of a manufacturer of motor vehicle or engine con-

1 versions to a clean alternative fuel (as defined in this
 2 title), the Administrator may approve the combination of
 3 such conversions into a single test group which would nor-
 4 mally not be eligible to be in a single test group if the
 5 manufacturer provides—

6 “(1) substantial evidence that all the conver-
 7 sions in the larger grouping will have the similar lev-
 8 els of emissions;

9 “(2) evidence of equivalent component dura-
 10 bility over the vehicle or engine’s useful life;

11 “(3) evidence that the groups will result in suf-
 12 ficient in-use verification program data, appropriate
 13 tracking in use, and clear liability for the Agency’s
 14 recall program; and

15 “(4) a statement that all vehicles within a test
 16 group are certified to the most stringent standards
 17 applicable to any vehicle within that test group.

18 In any such case, such conversion shall be treated as in-
 19 cluded within the scope of the exemption provided by the
 20 last sentence of subsection (a).”.

21 **SEC. 2. ADVANCING ALTERNATIVE FUELS REVOLVING**
 22 **LOAN FUND.**

23 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) AUTHORIZED EQUIPMENT.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “authorized
2 equipment” means any equipment necessary to
3 enable public vehicle fleets to operate on alter-
4 native fuels.

5 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “authorized
6 equipment” includes—

7 (i) Bi-fuel vehicle property, which
8 means property added to a motor vehicle
9 that uses conventional gasoline or diesel as
10 its fuel to allow the engine of such vehicle
11 to operate on either conventional gasoline
12 fuel or another alternative fuel.

13 (ii) Alternative fuel vehicle conversion
14 property, which means property added to a
15 motor vehicle that uses conventional gaso-
16 line or diesel as its fuel to allow the engine
17 of such vehicle to operate on another alter-
18 native fuel.

19 (2) FUND.—The term “Fund” means the Ad-
20 vancing Alternative Fuels Revolving Loan Fund es-
21 tablished by subsection (b).

22 (3) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
23 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
24 mental Protection Agency.

1 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND.—There is estab-
2 lished in the Treasury of the United States a revolving
3 fund, to be known as the “Advancing Alternative Fuels
4 Revolving Loan Fund”, consisting of such amounts as are
5 appropriated to the Fund.

6 (c) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), on
8 request by the Administrator, the Secretary of the
9 Treasury shall transfer from the Fund to the Ad-
10 ministrator such amounts as the Administrator de-
11 termines are necessary to provide loans under sub-
12 section (e).

13 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—An amount
14 not exceeding 10 percent of the amounts in the
15 Fund shall be available for each fiscal year to pay
16 the administrative expenses necessary to carry out
17 this section.

18 (d) TRANSFERS OF AMOUNTS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amounts required to be
20 transferred to the Fund under this section shall be
21 transferred at least monthly from the general fund
22 of the Treasury to the Fund on the basis of esti-
23 mates made by the Secretary of the Treasury.

24 (2) ADJUSTMENTS.—Proper adjustment shall
25 be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the

1 extent prior estimates were in excess of or less than
2 the amounts required to be transferred.

3 (e) USES OF FUND.—

4 (1) LOANS.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator
6 shall use amounts in the Fund to provide loans
7 to eligible units of local government to finance
8 purchases of authorized equipment to enable
9 public vehicle fleets to operate on alternative
10 fuels.

11 (B) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The maximum
12 amount of a loan that may be provided by the
13 Administrator to an eligible unit of local gov-
14 ernment under this subsection shall be the less-
15 er of—

16 (i) the amount that the eligible unit of
17 local government has appropriated to fi-
18 nance purchases of authorized equipment
19 to enable its vehicle fleet to operate on al-
20 ternative fuels.

21 (ii) \$500,000

22 (C) INTEREST RATE.—The interest rate on
23 any loan made by the Administrator under this
24 paragraph shall be a rate equal to 2 percent.

1 (D) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date on which an eligible unit of local
3 government receives a loan provided by the Ad-
4 ministrator under subparagraph (A), the eligi-
5 ble unit of local government shall submit to the
6 Administrator a report that describes each pur-
7 chase made by the eligible unit of local govern-
8 ment using assistance provided through the
9 loan.

10 (2) LOAN REPAYMENT SCHEDULE.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive
12 a loan from the Administrator under paragraph
13 (1), in accordance with each requirement de-
14 scribed in subparagraph (B), an eligible unit of
15 local government shall enter into an agreement
16 with the Administrator to establish a loan re-
17 payment schedule relating to the repayment of
18 the loan.

19 (B) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO LOAN
20 REPAYMENT SCHEDULE.—A loan repayment
21 schedule established under subparagraph (A)
22 shall require the eligible unit of local govern-
23 ment—

24 (i) to repay to the Secretary of the
25 Treasury, not later than 1 year after the

1 date on which the eligible unit of local gov-
2 ernment receives a loan under paragraph
3 (1), and semiannually thereafter, an
4 amount equal to the quotient obtained by
5 dividing—

6 (I) the principal amount of the
7 loan (including interest); by

8 (II) the total quantity of pay-
9 ments that the eligible unit of local
10 government is required to make dur-
11 ing the repayment period of the loan;
12 and

13 (ii) not later than 20 years after the
14 date on which the eligible unit of local gov-
15 ernment receives a loan under paragraph
16 (1), to complete repayment to the Sec-
17 retary of the Treasury of the loan made
18 under this section (including interest).

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